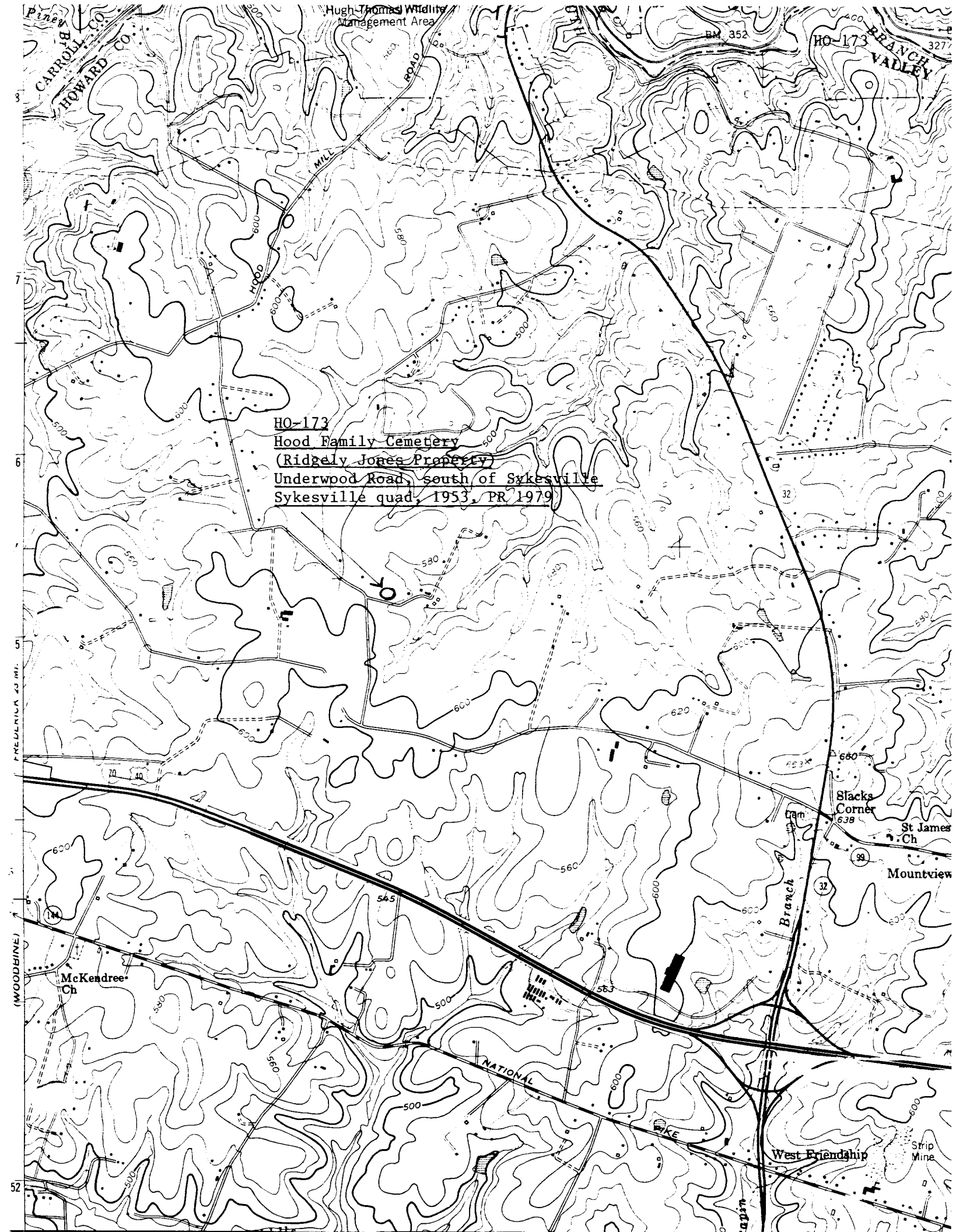


HO-173
Hood Family Cemetery
(Ridgely Jones Property)
Underwood Road, south of Sykesville

mid 19th century to present

The late 19th century house on this property replaces an 18th century house called "Bowling Green." According to the G.M. Hopkins Atlas of 1878, the property was owned by Jonathan T. Ridgely (164 acres). The Hood family reportedly settled in the area c. 1724. John Hood was married to Elizabeth Shipley, of Shipley's Search.

The cemetery, now surrounded by a wood fence, is carefully maintained by the Jones family, the current property owners, who are apparently descended from the Hoods and Ridgelys. The earliest dated stone is that of Benjamin Hood, an infant, who died in 1851. The next was Dr. Benjamin Hood, from 1855. His wife, beside him, is Hanna Mifflin, who died in 1891. Other stones include that of Dr. Benjamin Woods (d. 1883), whose mother was Mary Ann Hood. There is also an "Aunt" Mazie Ridgely Hood (d. 1893). There are two stones from the 1870s which are obscured by boxwoods. There are two Retzer family stones from 1960 and 1964, and Ridgely stones from 1915, 1945, and 1970. There is a stone for John Ridgely Jones, who died in 1985 (a son of Mrs. Helen Jones) and his wife, Mary Margaret (still living). There is also a stone for Ridgely and Helen Jones, showing her birth date and his birth and death dates (d. 1996). Mrs. Jones, who is in her eighties, reports that there were once several hemlocks in the cemetery, which have succumbed to lightning one by one over the years.



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Sykesville quad, 1953, PR 1979